

Notice to readers

Starting with today's issue, the Jordan Times will publish an additional page of national and local news, on page 4, continuing our efforts to provide more regular and in-depth coverage of events in Jordan. World news and features will be limited to pages 5 and 6.

JORDAN TIMES

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Mideast negotiating effort regains the spotlight once again

WASHINGTON, May 20 (Agencies) — U.S. President Jimmy Carter wrote letters to the heads of three Middle Eastern nations this week, urging them to press ahead towards negotiated peace settlement, the State Department said yesterday.

Department Spokesman Tom Weston said "we are intensifying our efforts" to help achieve a settlement. He would not disclose details of the letter to Israel's Menachem Begin, Egypt's Anwar Sadat, or Saudi Arabia's King Khaled.

Weston said the administration was still waiting for the Israeli response to a series of motions raised by President Carter in meetings in late April and early May.

He said those questions are concentrated on possibility for moving towards a return to the question of the Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza.

In Jeddah, the newspaper tab News today said President Sadat has rejected an

invitation from President Carter to meet Premier Begin in the United States.

Quoting reliable sources in Cairo, the English-language daily said President Sadat insisted in his reply that Israel must submit an official position paper on its views about a Middle East peace settlement before a resumption of the peace talks, suspended in January.

Israeli officials in occupied Jerusalem said today the U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia and Egypt has undermined Washington's credibility in Israel and casts doubt on any guarantees the United States may offer to underwrite a Mideast peace agreement.

These are some conclusions Prime Minister Begin takes Sunday to his cabinet in the wake of the three-nation Middle East arms package approved by the U.S. Congress last week, the sources said.

"This deal is going to color all our decisions from now on," said one Israeli with access to Begin's inner circle.

The credibility of the Carter administration is so low now that we won't necessarily accept at face value anything we are told," said the government source.

The U.S. offer to guarantee Israel's security, perhaps with a mutual defence pact, after the Israelis withdraw from occupied territory "has lost even the marginal credibility it may have enjoyed two years ago," wrote Jerusalem Post Political Editor Yousef Goell recently.

Back in Washington, U.S. Senator George McGovern called on Saudi Arabia and Egypt Friday to try a peace settlement with Israel as a good faith response to the Senate's decision to permit all three nations to buy U.S. warplanes.

"The ball is now in the court of the moderate Arabs and in the court of the administration and in the court of those of us who backed them on the theory that this was the best way back to the negotiating table," McGovern said.

In another development, Britain and the Scandinavian countries want to participate in the Mideast peace process, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said Friday in Tel Aviv.

"Britain would like to help with mediation, there were various hints that the Scandinavian governments (want to work) with factors we are not in contact with," Dayan said in a television interview.

He would not specify who those "factors" were,



His Majesty King Hussein bids farewell to Crown Prince Hassan at Amman airport Saturday before flying to Jeddah. Behind them, from left to right, are Prince Mohammad Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf (partly hidden), Amer Khammash and Premier Mudar Badran. (JNA photo)

King Hussein starts Jeddah talks with top Saudi officials

JEDDAH, May 20 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein held talks with Saudi Arabian Viceroy and Crown Prince Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz at the Al Hamra palace here this evening. They discussed current Arab issues and bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Court Minister Amer Khammash and Jordan's ambassador in Jeddah.

On the Saudi side were several princes, cabinet members and the Saudi ambassador in Amman.

King Hussein was earlier received at Jeddah airport by Prince Fahd, Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, the Second Deputy Prime Minister, and top Saudi officials.

Prince Fahd gave a dinner tonight in honour of King Hussein.

King Hussein is on a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

Brzezinski starts talks with Peking leadership

PEKING, May 20 (R). — President Carter's National Security Affairs Adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, conferred today with Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, and the situation in Zaire was believed to have been high on the agenda.

Mr. Huang was giving a banquet this evening in honour of Mr. Brzezinski, who arrived today for a three-day visit to the Chinese capital as the highest-ranking American since Secretary of State Cyrus Va-

nce was here ten months ago. Details of today's talks were not disclosed but informed sources said it would be safe to assume the situation of Zaire's Shaba province — where French and Belgian paratroopers are in the town of Kolwezi — was discussed.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) said two days ago the rebellion in Shaba had been "engineered by the Soviet Union and executed by Cuban mercenaries."

King Hussein remembers King Abdallah

... A humanist, a statesman, a warrior, a nation builder and a deeply religious man ...

Editor's note: This essay is an introduction to a new English language edition of the *Takmilah* (My Memoirs Completed) by his late Majesty King Abdallah in Al Hussein. The book will be published this year by Penguin's.

By His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal

My grandfather, the late King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, was by any criterion evaluation a unique and towering figure in the newly emerging turbulent, fascinating, and often tragic unfolding of events which characterised the awakening of the contemporary Arab world.

The process is as yet unfinished, and is inherently unamenable to completion, because the life of nations, particularly in the present dynamic world, is an ongoing flow which has no definable beginning and likewise, no foreseeable end.

But there are landmarks along this arduous, meandering journeying which can be recognised. My late grandfather was certainly one of those landmarks. His career was abundant and multi-dimensional; it would be difficult, even for those who had most intimate and prolonged association with him, to single out any specific area of activity or endowment with which his memory, as reflected in his career and partly registered in his memoirs and in the supplement which is the subject of this foreword, could be stamped.

He was a humanist, a man of letters, a statesman of the highest calibre, a warrior, a leader of men, a nation-builder, a statesman and a deeply religious man.

As a son of the region and of the Arabian Peninsula, he was a degree a traditionalist, deeply imbued with the morals, loves and values of Arab society, in their undiminished form, he was equally a product of the modern world, having ob-

tained his higher education and, later, having lived and served in Istanbul as elected deputy of Mecca in the Ottoman Mabkhan (parliament). The Ottoman Empire was then one amongst a handful of world empires, albeit a waning empire, whose ultimate demise came about in the wake of its defeat in World War I, when it had allied itself with the European Central Powers, against the more sagacious and sincere advice of the Hashemite family, the overlords of Mecca and the Hejaz.

King Abdallah's character and experience constituted a unique admixture and a confluence of the two streams, the traditionalist and the modern. In his private life, he was devoutly attached to his early traditionalist upbringing, with its stable norms, its poetry, its simplicity and its genuineness. His nostalgia for that form of life was never diluted or undermined by his extensive encounters with the intricacies and the fundamental forces of modern civilisation. My hunch is that he would have preferred the former, at least emotionally. But my grandfather was too shrewd, too far sighted and pragmatic a man not to perceive that the old ways, in a forbidding, ever changing, and shrinking world, were a thing of the past, which could no longer be sustained and were doomed to an irretrievable fading away. Hence, his public career, whether in statecraft, war or diplomacy, was predominantly forward looking, open and modern. In a world where only the fittest survive, a continual surging forward was the only avenue to survival, and his dynamic personality was such that he would not settle for less. He was outward looking, inexorably frank and extrovert. The awesome challenges which faced him in a period marked by turbulence, war, intrigues, reverse and diplomatic complexities — to use an understatement — did not in the least cow his undaunted spirit. It could be said without reservations that considering the world forces at play, and, in many instances, arrayed against him and his sacred cause, and remembering the seemingly incorrigible forces of disarray and the weakness which marred Arab society in those incipient years of its awakening from half a millennium of lethargy, his achievements could by no means be underrated.

(Continued on page 6)

Shootout at Paris airport El Al counter leaves 3 gunmen dead, 6 injured

PARIS, May 20 (R). — Three unidentified gunmen were killed during a 25-minute battle with French policemen and Israeli security agents at Orly Airport today. A French policeman also died in the battle which broke out when the three gunmen were spotted trying to mingle with passengers of a Tel Aviv-bound El Al Israeli airliner.

French police said three more policemen and three passengers, all French nationals, were injured in the shooting.

Airport Police Chief Paul Roux described the gunmen as Palestinians, but Regional Prefect Jean Perrier said positive identification was difficult because the gunmen carried several passports and Tunisian documents.

Mr. Perrier said earlier reports that other gunmen were involved appeared incorrect but police searched the airfield tarmac area and all cars leaving the airport.

Amid the confusion following the shooting at the packed airport terminal, helmeted police threw gas grenades into a toilet area where one gunman was thought to have sought refuge. But when they stormed the area no one was inside.

The three gunmen lay sprawled in pools of blood near the El Al counter as police gingerly took hand grenades and plastic explosives from the bodies.

The exact target of the trio was not clear. Police re-

Damascus says M.E. situation is explosive

DAMASCUS, May 20 (R). — Damascus Radio today described the Middle East situation as explosive.

The state-run radio said in a commentary: "The danger of an explosion ... may increase to a large extent because of Israeli intrusiveness, freezing the United Nations role of finding a just and total settlement and the U.S. persisting in supplying modern arms to Israel."

Any new explosion in the Middle East would constitute real danger to world peace and security, it added.

Syria was "always ready to join true efforts to deal with the Middle East situation on the basis of full withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their rights on their land," the commentator said.

Violence flares at opening of Narita airport

NARITA, Japan, May 20 (R). — Riot police tonight beat back an attack on Tokyo's new Narita Airport by hundreds of radical leftists.

The leftwing opponents of the airport, formally opened today, hurled petrol bombs and wielded iron bars when they surged up to main gate.

The police said they also thwarted an attack on an airport radar site 20 kms. east of the Narita site itself.

A lone government minister and Shinto priests waving white paper wands, to ward off devils, earlier had performed the opening ceremony of the airport, turned into a fortress guarded by 14,000 police.

Radicals who see the \$2.6 billion project as symbolic of the evils of capitalism, and farmers seeking more compensation for lost land, have campaigned against it for 12 years.

The campaign until today had claimed five lives and resulted in 8,000 people injured.

Today's battle at the gate was fought out in the light of balls of flame from burning trucks and exploding petrol bombs.

Police said the opponents of the airport sought to crash through the gate with two burning trucks. Flames broke out at the site as heavily reinforced riot police fought back against about 700 demonstrators.

Earlier, about 15,000 demonstrators turned out to protest

WHO condemns Israeli acts in S. Lebanon

GENEVA, May 20 (AP). — The governing body of the World Health Organisation condemned Israel Friday for destroying "health and medical facilities" in southern Lebanon and causing "injuries and mutilation" to many citizens.

A resolution adopted by consensus at the annual WHO assembly called on Director General Halfdan Mahler to intensify the organisation's health and medical assistance to Lebanon in view of "the new situation created by the invasion" of the southern part of the country.

The assembly said the invasion by Israel resulted in the flight of "thousands of inhabitants ... living in wretched conditions."

Four of the other five persons arrested were released for lack of evidence, and charges were brought against an 11th person who was at large.

Bhutto on hunger strike

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, May 20 (R). — Pakistan's deposed Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who is under a sentence of death for ordering a political assassination, has been on hunger strike in his condemned cell for the past four days, his lawyer said today. Mr. Bhutto, 50, began refusing food in protest against conditions in the Rawalpindi jail to which he was transferred last Wednesday for the start today of his appeal against the death sentence. His lawyer, Mr. Yahya Bakhtiar, told reporters after a visit to the jail today that Mr. Bhutto was accepting only water, tea ... and cigars.

Price : Jordan 50 fils ; Syria 50 piastres ; Lebanon 75 piastres ;
Saudi Arabia 1 riyal ; UAE 1 dirham ; Great Britain 25 pence

Iberia whose departure point is near El Al's airport sources said.

The three men, clad in blue jeans and pulllovers, all appeared to be of Mediterranean origin.

One of the three had two passports in his pockets, one of which was Lebanese-issued, witness said.

Officials at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport on the other side of Paris said they received an anonymous telephone call at the same time the Orly attack started.

The caller said a bomb was placed in a Tel Aviv-bound Air France plane about to take off, they added.

The plane was searched but took off later after no bomb was found.

French, Belgian forces recapture Kolwezi from rebel troops in Zaire

people as far as Kamina by tonight, leaving several hundred still to be flown out,

Belgian officials said some rebels were reported still inside Kolwezi and in the surrounding area but there appeared to be no organised resistance. The French reported the airborne force was in control of the city.

The refugees had survived for several days without water or electricity and with only meager food supplies, Belgian officials said. Belgian Radio reported the evacuees were in a state of shock.

The breakdown by nationality of the refugees was not immediately reported.

The French Defence Ministry, which confirmed finding the bodies, said in Paris that the link-up was achieved when a third wave of 200 Foreign Legionnaires was dropped into the Kolwezi area Saturday morning. Four hundred French troops jumped into Kolwezi on Friday.

"As of this moment, our forces control the whole of the town," said Col. Paul Cavarrot, head of the French army's press service.

He said 25 to 30 rebels were killed in the assault. The French reported several troops injured in jump accidents, but no battlefield casualties.

Col. Cavarrot said four American cargo planes, three C-141s and a C-5 Galaxy, arrived at the Shaba province capital of Lubumbashi Saturday with plane loads of heavy equipment.

The Defence Ministry in Brussels said the Belgian troops were holding Kolwezi Airport, 13 kms. from the town of Kamina, the staging area for the Belgian forces 250 kms. to the north.

Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans said in Brussels the first plane load of evacuees could arrive at Brussels' Zaventem Airport in the early hours of Sunday.

Defence Minister Paul Vandendriessche said he was hoping to evacuate up to 1,200

people from Zambia to Kamina, the British Foreign Office said.

The first 400 French, who jumped into the fighting a day earlier than planned when the rebels apparently learned of an operation scheduled for Saturday, went into action in two waves, a Western military source said. They met no immediate resistance, but later in the day encountered heavy fire.

The drop was preceded by air attacks from Zairean air force fighters. The strongest resistance was met at the Kolwezi police building that the rebels had used as their headquarters, the French statement said.

AZAP said the rebels began fleeing the city after the legions went in, and Zairean troops took up positions on the outskirts of the city. The agency said rebel leaders had ordered their men to "massacre" whites, sabotage mining machinery and abduct Zairean youths for the rebel army.

Nine whites are believed to have been taken hostage by the retreating rebels, Western diplomatic sources said in Lusaka, according to Reuters.

One source said: "As far as we know, some of the hostages are Belgian. Communications are very bad and we cannot be positive about anything."

Italian attacks continue

ROME, May 20 (AP). — Gunmen attacked Alfa Romeo showrooms in Rome and Milan early Saturday, and police sought clues from Red Brigades hideouts and jailed collaborators to try to break the Alfa Moro case.

Terrorists used a bomb in the Rome attack. The blast caused heavy damage to the entrance and sent residents from apartments in upper floors streaming into the streets in the early morning hours.

In Milan, terrorists set fire to several of the cars in the showroom of the state-owned auto giant.

Police brought charges Friday against five of ten suspected Red Brigades members arrested in a raid on a print shop believed to have been used in preparing communiques during the 55-day imprisonment of Mr. Moro, President of the ruling Christian Democrats and five-time premier, found slain on May 9.

Four of the other five persons arrested were released for lack of evidence, and charges were brought against an 11th person who was at large.

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You need an iron stomach to get through some dinners

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the leader of the British Conservative Party, is one of those people who believe in a set of common principles and obligations holding together the free democracies of the Western world, and as a living example of what she believes, she finds it necessary every once in a while to show that she can say and do things that are just as idiotic as the sayings and doings of her politician colleagues in the United States. Like the defence of liberty, the propagation of intellectual fatuity spans the waters of the North Atlantic Ocean, and it has taken the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of Israel to spark off Mrs. Thatcher's latest silliness.

She said in a dinner speech this week (to -- you guessed it -- the Anglo-Israel Friendship League) that Israel is one of the few democracies in the modern world, that it is faced with a struggle to keep its moral code alive and that Israelis know better than most people the real value of liberty. We know it's a bit much to stomach all this at one sitting, but Mrs. Thatcher really did say all this -- before the pudding dessert, presumably -- and we suggest that her performance is one of the best illustrations of the point she made -- that the struggle to keep alive the moral code of democracy is having a rough time in England these days.

What is so grotesque about the lady's performance? Simply that she has found it expedient to stand up -- for a fee? -- and parrot standard Israeli propaganda lines about spreading democracy in the Holy Land, when the overriding fact of Israel's existence is that it has embroiled the Middle East in an ungodly conflict based on Israel's denial of the fundamental rights of the Palestinians. This is a simple fact recognised by nearly the entire world. It is strange that Mrs. Thatcher should not see the point, or is she more engrossed with the democratic marvels of Israel as seen in Israel's special relationships with the democracies of South Africa and Ethiopia, to name only two contemporary recipients of Israeli assistance?

Mrs. Thatcher is free to say what she likes, of course, and she obviously knows what is best for her political career. But she is rather pitiful this week, extolling the virtues of an open democratic system while standing up to show herself off as an example of that system's deficiencies.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

In his column "words" in the AL RA'I newspaper, Jum'a Hammad Saturday noted that the campaign by the world media against the Zionist policy of settling in occupied Arab territories did not result in curbing this policy but, in fact, sharpened it to the extent that Israel's ambition in this direction is becoming the pivotal policy of the Israeli military rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

This has been illustrated by the Israeli government's recent decision, approved by all political parties, to establish six new settlements to accommodate 160,000 people. The Israeli Defence Ministry has pledged to build 35,000 housing units for this purpose.

This latest settlement decision could well have its effect in five years or so when the Arabs would be faced with the question of self-determination for all inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Hammad asks: "Are the Arabs going to remain silent while their land is being swallowed up? And is there a way to prevent our compatriots from finally becoming a minority in their own homes?"

AL DUSTOUR notes that the U.S. defeat in Vietnam, coupled with the more recent Soviet victory in Angola, has given momentum to the Soviet Union's strategy of increasing its influence in the world. It says the recent Soviet push in the Horn of Africa and the military coup d'état in Afghanistan are but two examples.

The editorial thinks that one of the reasons for the Soviet push is the tendency of the Americans, after Vietnam, to avoid getting involved in world problems or in military adventures abroad.

The newspaper warns against Soviet attempts to infiltrate the western Red Sea areas which would enable Moscow to pressure Egypt and the Sudan from the south and draw it nearer to the oil resources in Saudi Arabia. This, the newspaper adds, would put the Soviet Union in a stronger position when negotiating with the United States on the future of the Indian Ocean.

The newspaper says it is tragic to see the Arab World and Arab waters becoming a battlefield for superpowers without the Arabs being able to avoid involvement or at least to remain neutral in this conflict.

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"I try to capture a mood through composition and colour", says American - artist Mrs. Rawajfih

Text and photos by
 Marianne Pearson
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — American artist Linda Pierce Rawajfih signs her pictures "Linda Pierce" but prefers to be called Linda. Although she is Mrs. Rawajfih at heart, even the students at the University of Jordan where she works call her "Miss Linda." There isn't much age difference: Linda was a student herself little over a year ago.

Her first solo exhibit is now being held at the newly-revamped American Centre, until May 23. Her 27 drawings and paintings about Jordan, many of them for sale, will be shown daily except Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The exhibition is sponsored jointly by the centre and American Women of Amman.

Agriculture entwines the work of both Linda and her husband, Zahir, scientifically and artistically. She draws scientific illustrations for the Faculty of Agriculture; he teaches soil chemistry and does research there. Many of her pic-

tures are inspired by rural scenes and often based on photographs taken by Zahir.

"We have the same tastes. He does the same composition in the camera that I would. I leave it to him. We're a team," Linda said.

Probably the fact that Zahir is a "hard worker" contributes to her productivity also. After a day's work at the university, while he prepares lectures and thinks about research projects for his graduate students, she works on her pictures.

Many are scenes of village life from Zahir's boyhood home near Tafileh, where he goes at least once a month to visit his mother and relatives. Linda goes with him when it's possible; otherwise she has his photographs to work from. Since women in rural areas don't like to be photographed, the women in her pictures are family members.

A favourite oil painting shows her sister-in-law harvesting wheat. It's a strong composition: the woman dressed in black and white bends to one side and the warm neutral of the field is richly textured

with details of the wheat. Linda is sorry now that she sold it.

"Most Jordanians think if a picture's not in oil, it's not good. I will show other types as well: pastels, pencil, pen and ink, and acrylic. I can never get bored. Each medium offers something different."

"I like scientific art, too," she said. She is at present illustrating Dr. Abu Imaileh's "Weeds of Jordan" and has already completed about half of the 200 drawings it will contain. Each completed drawing in India ink and wash requires first a detailed pencil sketch. Linda often uses a microscope to study the appearance of details which distinguish the species from all related ones.

"Weeds of Jordan" will be the eighth publication Linda has illustrated. Others include four Biology manuals she did as a student and a school textbook on health for the Royal Scientific Society.

Linda has always wanted to be an artist. She made her first artistic efforts when, as a wiggly small child, she was kept quiet during church ser-

vices with a pad and pencil. Although the art instruction she received in elementary and secondary schools wasn't very good, she continued drawing. The courses at Auburn University were "excellent" and she completed her B.A. in Visual Arts work there, taking as many courses dealing with scientific illustration as she could.

Her whole family still live in Alabama, where she grew up. "We're a close family. My parents let Zahir and I leave only on the condition we return to visit once a year."

She feels inspired by Jordan, "so ancient culture, something I missed at home."

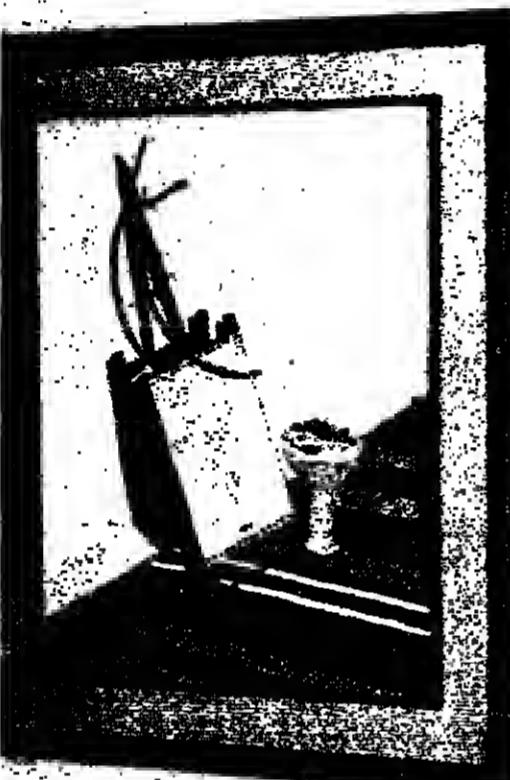
"I don't aim for photographic realism," she said, "but through composition and color I try to capture a mood."

Although no sculpture will appear in the exhibition, she considers this form "my best." Zahir's brother has given her a piece of apricot tree wood, cut from the limb of a 100-year-old tree in his orchard near Tafileh. She considers it a "reward" for hard work.

But, Linda said, "I think I'd like to do another exhibit next year."



Linda Pierce Rawajfih works in pastels at home. "I just can't seem to take it easy," she says.



"Rababa" (left) and "Sherba" (right) are both arranged on a rug woven by Zahir's mother. Linda said other village women occasionally work with synthetic fibers, but her mother-in-law "never will."



Propped against the Rawajfih's dining table is "Harvest" and "Artist in Jordan" hangs on the wall. Both are based on photographic slides taken by Linda's husband. Linda said the light of the sunset in the one on the wall was too spectacular to be realistic in a painting and she toned it down.



Dr. Abu Imaileh, plant physiologist at the Faculty of Agriculture, discusses a weed specimen with Linda. Any time of the year he and an assistant collect weeds from all over the country, but springtime is especially busy.



Linda, at her drawing table in the Agriculture Faculty's museum, makes a preliminary pencil drawing of a weed.



Linda and her husband Zahir meet for a meal in his office in the same building in which she works. They are both graduates of Auburn University in Alabama. He completed work on his doctorate in 1975, the year they were married, and did research during the following year while Linda completed her B.A. in Visual Arts.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of works by Jordanian artist Ismail Hamdan will be on display at the Soviet Cultural Centre on Jabal Amman. The exhibition ends today.

The American Centre is featuring an exhibition of drawings and paintings by Linda Pierce Rawajfih starting today. The exhibition continues till May 23 except for Friday.

Friends of Archaeology

Dr. Nicola Ziadeh will be guiding an excursion to Qasr al-Mushaita. The trip starts in front of the Dept. of Antiquities at 10:00 a.m. sharp, by caravan.

Film and Readings

The British Council commemorates the 50th anniversary of Thomas Hardy's death with a film entitled "Thomas Hardy and Dorset" together with readings from his works on Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Lecture

A lecture in Arabic, on "The Role of Islam in Social Progress in the Arab World" will be given by Dr. Mohammad Abduselam on Monday at 4:30 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.

Art Exhibit

An art exhibit opened yesterday in Irbid in which thirteen Jordanian artists are taking part. The exhibition is on display at the Irbid Youth Centre.

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With ballet, books and a lecture British culture makes a grand comeback to Syria

By Pat McDonnell
Special to the Jordan Times

DAMASCUS — "The British are coming, the British are coming."

Those familiar words of Paul Revere are being repeated in Damascus as the May 24 opening of the British Cultural Centre nears.

More than 18 months of preparation have gone into organising the activities and services to be offered by the Centre located on the ground floor of the Meydan Building, Abdul Moneim Riyad St., West Mallik.

Inaugural ceremonies will feature a talk by Syrian Minister of Culture and Guidance, Mme. Najah Attar, followed by a film entitled "An evening with the Royal Ballet," starring Lynn Fontanne and Rudolph Nureyev.

The May 24 festivities mark the first time a British Cultural Centre has been officially in operation in Syria since 1956. Interestingly enough, the director of the centre, Richard F. Hitchcock, was in Syria on his first foreign post when the Suez Crisis brought about the close of the British Council of Damascus two decades ago. Since then, Hitchcock, an Arabist, has spent extended stays in Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon and the Sudan.

An admitted enthusiast of all things Arabic, Hitchcock commented on the "fantastic growth of Damascus" during his 21-year absence. In reference to the May 24 opening, he noted: "Book lovers should be interested in an exhibition of 300 mouth-watering English language books on the Middle East that will be on display in conjunction with opening week activities."

Arrangements are being made for a programme to bring English language instructors to Syria to train Syrian teachers of English, write a new Syrian textbook series on English and assist in supervising existing English courses in the public school system.

Another tentative service will be technical cooperation provided by British electrical and mechanical engineering technicians who will teach courses at the University of Damascus.

Plans are underway to import a specialist of English language instruction to train six Syrian teachers of English who will then teach English to Syrian directors of national industries.

A scholarships programme is in the offing that will provide non-academic Syrian students with technical trade scholarships to Britain as well as academic scholarships for future teachers.

Lastly, the British Cultural Centre will sponsor visits by British professionals to consult Syrian agencies and universities departments upon request.

"One of the fondest hopes of the centre is to offer English language classes to the general Damascus public," Mr. Hitchcock said. "The expense of bringing specially trained English language instructors to Syria -- apartments, salary, and living allowances -- has dimmed our hopes. Nonetheless, we're exploring alternative plans. One is to bring an English language specialist to Damascus to train native English speakers living in Syria to teach classes."

The British Cultural Centre itself will offer a variety of

services. Although it will follow no rigid pre-planned monthly programme, the Centre will sponsor lectures and cultural activities according to the needs and requests of the Damascus community.

Heading the list of services is the library, open to the public daily from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. under the direction of Hassan Miran Kulyara. Newspapers include The London Times, Financial Times, The Sunday Times, and the Economist.

Publications in the library will be reference books in the areas of medicine, technology, science, the arts and English language and literature. A loan library of recordings and cassettes pertaining to drama, poetry and English speech and language will be offered in addition to supplementary graded readers for students of the English language.

The centre also will serve as headquarters for examinations to be administered twice a year: the Cambridge University Entrance examinations.

sing contemporary British fiction. Tentative lectures are a discussion on Arab musical instruments by Jean Jenkins, a leading British specialist on ethnic music, and a talk by Dr. David Oates on his excavations at Tel Brak. That's strictly rumour, but nevertheless, "the British are coming" and everyone in Damascus is welcoming their arrival.

The centre will offer four

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REFERENCES OF CONTRACTORS CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS OF JORDAN NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CENTRE (J.N.G.C.)

Local and foreign contractors are invited to bid for the construction of the new Jordan National Geographic Centre buildings, to be constructed in Amman.

Separate sealed bids are required for the following contracts:

1. Construction of main building, 4-level, approx. 12,500 sq. m. (architectural sections only, excluding mechanical and electrical equipment, plumbing, etc...), using a special pre-fab. structural system. Construction of five executive houses (complete with all their equipment), plus water tank, septic tank, etc...
2. Mechanical and electrical equipment and plumbing, etc... for main building.

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Amman — Jordan

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75116 Paris — France

No later than Thursday, June 1, 1978 at 12:30.

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Tender documents will be available at same addresses from Thursday, June 13, 1978 on payment of JD 125 for each of the two contracts.

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ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try not to commit yourself to any further expense, but pay pressing bills instead. Avoid arguing with mate, loved one. Concentrate on whatever is charming and beautiful. Think positive.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your partners are not in a good mood today, so be with others until they are feeling better. Do not get into any arguments where a civic matter is concerned. Be most careful when out driving.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get work done alone without expecting help from others, but don't overdo. Take time for pleasant visits. Get home fixed nicely so that you are proud of it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you are courteous and charming to others, you avoid arguments and can have a pleasant day. Don't overspend for pleasure, but stay within your budget.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Don't bring up any controversial subjects at home, where tempers are apt to be short. Study into a new venture but don't jump right into it, as yet. Be wise.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Use particular care in driving since others might be careless. Go after data you need in a quiet way from dependable sources. Avoid one who has an eye on your assets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A good time to instill economy measures, whether you think you need them or not. Don't take chances but listen to what a bigwig has to suggest. Think along more constructive lines.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have ideas that could get you into trouble, so forget them now, and don't be forceful with others. Steer clear of a group affair where arguments could arise. Home is best bet.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Although you may feel limited, this is no day for you to rant and rave, but to plan quietly how to better your lot in life. Clear the deck for action later.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Your pals are in no mood to be helpful today so get things done on your own. Plan how to become more independent in the future also. You have more ability than you think.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have to be particularly cautious in the handling of worldly affairs now. Don't jeopardize your position with bigwigs by wrong words, actions. Be careful of your reputation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to March 20) Not a good time to get started on a new interest or you meet with failure. You have made new contacts that can be good for you in the future. Forget those who have been drawbacks to you.

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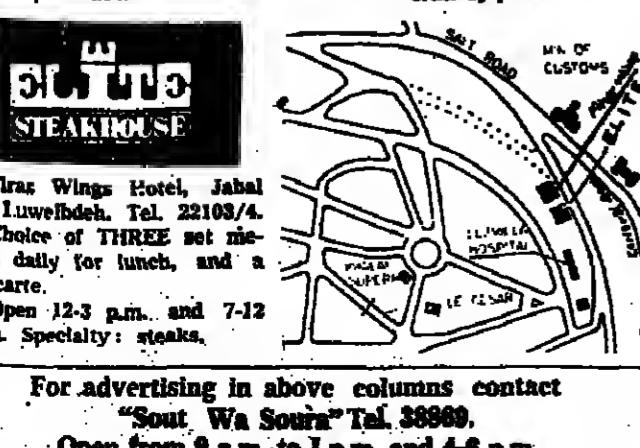
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Peru declares state of emergency following violent demonstrations

LIMA, Peru, May 20 (AP). — Peru's military government declared a state of emergency today "to return the country to a climate of normality" following nationwide demonstrations in which at least 11 persons died.

President Francisco Morales Bermudez met with his 14-member cabinet late last night, then declared the emergency to counter the protests against government-decreed price increases for gasoline, food, electricity and transportation. He said he would speak to the nation tonight to discuss the emergency.

The government suspended the right of habeas corpus, prohibited public gatherings and banned free travel into and out of the country.

"The grave economic situation confronting the country has obliged the government to dictate economic reactivation measures," the government said in a decree signed by the president and the commanding general of the army, navy and air force. "These measures are being used by extremist groups to instigate subversion and to gravely alter public order in various areas of the national territory, endangering life, property and essential public services. These deeds put the security and spiritual values of the nation in danger."

Business and industrial leaders said the government-mandated price increases were necessary to generate production, which has been hindered by strikes, inflation and falling prices for some of Peru's experts. The cost of living in Peru has gone up 43 per cent in the past year.

Elections for a constitutional assembly to return the country to civilian rule by 1980 were postponed Friday from June 4 to June 18. The National Election Board said the postponement was caused by the rioting.

Demonstrations continued Friday for the fifth straight day in at least 12 cities, and the communist-led General Confederation of Peruvian Labour called a strike for Monday and Tuesday to protest the price hikes. The government said the

strike would be illegal and issued orders for the arrest of major leftist labour leaders.

The Election Board said a general strike that shut down factories and stores in Arequipa, 450 miles south of Lima, interfered with the preparation of voting booths. It also said rioters in the Amazon jungle city of Tingo Maria had destroyed the Election Board office there.

Army units were sent to the cities to reinforce local police.

Soviet dissident appears on T.V.

MOSCOW, May 20 (R). — Dissident Zviad Gamsakhurdia, sentenced yesterday to hard labour and exile, appeared on television and admitted systematically slandering the Soviet state.

In a recorded statement broadcast in the main evening news programme, Mr. Gamsakhurdia, a writer, said that between 1971 and his arrest in April, 1977, he had produced and distributed slanderous literature for the purpose of weakening Soviet power.

Mr. Gamsakhurdia, a member of the Georgian Republic "Helsinki" group, was sentenced to three years in a labour camp followed by two years internal exile by a court in Tbilisi, capital of Georgia. Musicologist Merab Kostava received a similar sentence.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Major league baseball results and standings after Friday's games:

AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Detroit	22	10	.688	—
Boston	23	13	.639	1
New York	21	12	.618	2
Cleveland	17	17	.500	6
Milwaukee	16	19	.457	7½
Baltimore	14	20	.412	9
Toronto	13	21	.382	10

Friday's games:

Cleveland 7, Baltimore 5
New York 11, Toronto 3
Detroit 7, Boston 5
California 7, Milwaukee 1
Minnesota 5, Kansas City 3
Seattle 6-2, Texas 5-4
Chicago 6, Oakland 2

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Philadelphia	18	15	.545	—
Montreal	18	17	.514	1
Chicago	17	17	.500	14
New York	17	21	.447	21
Pittsburgh	15	19	.441	34
St. Louis	14	23	.378	6

Friday's games:

Chicago 6, St. Louis 2
Pittsburgh 5, Montreal 3
New York 4, Philadelphia 3
Cincinnati 4, San Diego 3
Houston 6, Atlanta 0
San Francisco 10, Los Angeles 7.

Weekly Wall Street Report

Scepticism continues to greet spring rally

NEW YORK, May 20 (AP). — Nearing the end of its third month, the stock market's spring rally is still being greeted with skepticism and confusion on Wall Street.

A number of analysts argue that it can't last because it is occurring at the "wrong" time in the normal cyclical pattern of the economy.

And even some who believe it may represent an important shift in the mood of investors acknowledge that it doesn't make sense in comparison with the market's past behaviour.

Bull markets, they note, are supposed to begin with the economy at a low ebb as investors look ahead to a recovery -- not more than three years into a business expansion.

Bull markets are supposed to begin as interest rates peak and head downward, not while rates are climbing steadily.

Bull markets aren't supposed to begin amid the kind of inflation worries that are currently in evidence among investors and businessmen and in Washington.

Yet the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials hit an eight-month high this past week in the course of a 6.15 advance to 246.85.

Since the end of February the average has risen 104.73 points.

Other weekly readings showed the New York Stock Exchange composite index up .10 at 54.95, and the American Stock Exchange market value index gained 2.29 to 144.86.

Second busiest day

Big board volume came to 204.19 million shares -- the second busiest total on record, surpassed only by the 212.29 million total April 17-21. Almost 1 billion shares have traded in the past five weeks, by far the busiest period in the exchange's history.

Perhaps typical of the skeptical camp are the views of Joseph McAlinden, Director of Research at Argus Research Corp.

"This spring's explosive advance in stock prices has been described by many as a 'fundamental,'" he wrote in this month's commentary on the market.

"But bear market bottoms in the past have occurred in conjunction with cyclically declining interest rates and an economy that was entering -- if not well into -- a period of slowdown or contraction."

"Stocks are cheap on a longterm basis," he said, but "the basic forces which have traditionally driven stock prices downward in the late stages of business expansions -- rising interest rates and faltering expectations of business activity -- will soon be operative again, the 'cheapness' of stocks notwithstanding."

"If the early March lows did indeed mark the end of the bear market, this cycle constitutes a radical departure from the past."

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



GORED BRIDGE

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Q.—For some reason I am always reluctant to open with a three-bid. Please discuss preemptive opening bids, the requirements for opening with a three-bid, and the reasons for doing so.

—R. Corbett, New York, N.Y.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A.—We all like to deal good hands with long, strong suits. Unfortunately, such are the vagaries of bridge that each side can expect to be on the offensive only half the time—the other half they will be outgunned and the hand will belong to the opponents. Preemptive bids are designed to interfere with the rhythm of the opponents' auction or some of those hands.

The requirements for an opening bid of three in suit in first seat position are relatively straightforward. The Rule of 2 and 3 applies. You should be able to take within two tricks of your contract if vulnerable, within three tricks if not vulnerable.

An opening three-bid carries with it certain negative implications. The hand is not strong enough to open one of a suit. You should not open with a preemptive three-bid with more than 9 HCP if not vulnerable, 10 if vulnerable. In addition, you should hold a good seven-card suit and not too much in the way of defense. Consider these two hands:

The requirements for an opening bid of three in suit in first seat position are relatively straightforward. The Rule of 2 and 3 applies. You should be able to take within two tricks of your contract if vulnerable, within three tricks if not vulnerable.

As a result, you could miss a game in your major suit.

Q.—As dealer, what would you bid with this hand?

♦Q5 V1073 ♦AKJ4 ♦AK102

—A. Hannah, Seattle, Wash.

A.—You have the values and distribution for one no trump, but with so much of your strength concentrated in two aints, I feel one diamond would be your best opening bid. No matter what partner does, you will not be pressed for a red bid, and the auction should proceed more comfortably and accurately than over a one no trump opening.

♦K5XXXX ♦VXX ♦XX ♦X

If vulnerable, what would you open with each of these hands?

Hand n) is a maximum vulnerable three spade opening bid. You can expect to take seven tricks in your own hand, and you have little to offer in the way of defense. With hand b), however, you should open one spade at my vulnerability. Your hand is too good defensively to open with a preemptive bid—it contains 2½ defensive tricks. Note that the point count of the two holdings is identical.

In third seat, you are allowed a bit more latitude in preempting. Consider this hand:

♦K5XXXX ♦VXX ♦XX ♦X



"...A humanist, a statesman, a warrior...": King Hussein remembers King Abdallah

(Continued from page 1)

Let us remember that my grandfather was the second son of King Hussein Ibn Ali, whom the Arab nation, half a century ago, had chosen as the standard bearer and champion of the famed Arab Rebellion against Ottoman hegemony, discrimination and misrule. It was the first truly Arab thrust towards achieving their liberation, unity and progress in modern times. The Arab nation, under the dedicated leadership of Al Hussein and his sons, fought valiantly, and at great cost and sacrifice on the side of the Allies, and against their co-religionists the Turks, in the cause of its triumph. The harvest of their long ordeal was bitter, disillusioning and, in certain instances, tragic.

This was the legacy, or should I more aptly call it the burden, that King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein had inherited, and his genius was that out of the throes of catastrophe he succeeded in salvaging what remnants of the Arab homeland he could, without for one moment losing his revolutionary fervor or his indomitable dedication to the cause of Arab unity.

Throughout the Supplement Al Takmilah, and in its antecedent the comprehensive and thorough memoirs written over a quarter of a century ago, the dominant theme was his abiding concern for the fulfillment of the original goals and aspirations of the Arab Rebellion, which had deviated from its evoked course by internal, but more potently by external forces. The first were inspired by what seemed to him petty, vindictive and irrelevant counterforces; the second by self seek, arrogant and, in historical perspective, myopic external decisions, which had condemned the Arab homeland east of Suez to artificial and unnatural fragmentation, and consequently to strife and instability.

King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein was particularly grieved by the partitioning of natural Syria, in consequence of the Sykes-Picot Agreement, which vivisected natural Syria into zones of mandates and influence between France and Britain. King Abdallah's adversaries, in their relentless and unabashed self seeking efforts to abolish his efforts towards restoring the God-created and timeless unity and territorial integrity of Syria, tried to denigrate his endeavors by distortive descriptions such as the "Greater Syrian Plan," to connote the idea of aggrandizement.

The meeting held at Raghadan Palace on November 28, 1950, between King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein and the then Prime Minister of Syria, Dr. Nazim Al Kudsi, is an eloquent and definitive testimony to how two leaders, embracing the same ideals of Syrian unification within an overall Arab unity, approached their common aim.

King Abdallah was unflinching, single minded, dedicated and willing to bear every sacrifice towards achieving that cherished goal. He almost took its imperative inevitability for granted, as do truly committed believers in a cause in which they ardently believe. He lectured and taunted his honoured guest on the elemental historical and compelling factors of the situation. King Abdallah was thoroughly well versed in history, both past and contemporary, and this was in my opinion his mainstay and the fountain source of the strength which sustained him in the unwavering pursuit of his mission.

Dr. Al Kudsi, highly educated, articulate and presumably dedicated to the cause, was ambivalent and evasive, and indulged in side issues pertaining to the chronic inter-Arab rivalries and quarrels.

Herein lies the difference between nation builders, history makers and men of decision such as King Abdallah was, and the conventional politicians, sophisticated as they may be, who, at crucial moments in history, put expediency above the more lasting national causes and destiny of their people.

I would not wish to be too harsh in my assessment of Dr. Al Kudsi's performance. In all probability, he himself was not a free agent within the power structure obtaining in his country during those years. In making the invidious comparison which I have just made, I am focusing my analysis on the much wider circle of conventional, mediocre and often-times self seeking politicians who lacked the will, the imagination, or even the true fidelity to the cause which had given them the reins of power in their respective countries and entrusted them with their destiny.

I may add that the comparison, to the generality of readers, is solely of historical significance, important primarily to specialized historians of that era.

To me, it is much more significant than that, because it is still a very pervasive phenomenon, which has wrought disaster upon the destiny and the welfare of our nation, and has brought about a situation where the very inviolability of our Arab homeland, deprived of its basic cohesion at the heartland, is in grave jeopardy.

Since my accession to the throne of the kingdom a quarter of a century ago, I have struggled with all the means at my disposal to continue on the path of Arab unity, in a genuine effort to fulfill the aims and aspirations for which my grandfather had dedicated their lives. It is with profound regret that I find myself impelled to state that the same forces of negativism, disarray and selfishness, which had obstructed the efforts of earlier generations, are still very much evident and active. Persons and personalities have in many instances changed; but erroneous orientations and malicious machinations have not. As I write these thoughts on the supplement to my grandfather's Takmilah, I draw some consolation from the fact that Jordan and Syria have already embarked upon a process of gradual unification, on realistic and functional foundations. The territory already traversed on this blessed path is considerable and, God willing, it will not be long before this cherished goal is formalized in structures and functions, for the benefit and credibility of all the regions and inhabitants of this cradle of civilization.

The Takmilah is not a chronological orderly register of events, in the traditional forms of diaries or autobiographies. The earlier thorough memoirs qualify under this category. Nor is the Takmilah merely topical and selective. It is a combination of both, permeated all through by an analytical and penetrative perception of the underlying causes behind those events.

It could best be characterized as a critique of the Arab character and of the environmental factors which formulated its attitudes, behaviour and actions in those years. This is reflected at the outset, in King Abdallah's introduction to the Supplement under the heading "A Word on the Arabs in General."

Unfortunately, it is not always clear, especially to the uninitiated, whether he was talking about the urban, the bedouin or the rural Arabs. My presumption is that the illustrious King assumed that all Arabs carried the same basic traits, with differences only in degree, depending upon their varying stages of development, and, by corollary, upon the differing environmental influences to which each was subjected.

The absence of clear cut distinction could not have been an oversight, nor for that matter a lack of discernment. This is because King Abdallah knew the various categories of Arabs intimately and at close range. He had dealt with urban and highly educated Arab personages, just as he had the closest comradeship with naturally endowed and formidable tribal sheikhs. He could deal with both, with deep understanding and incisive judgement.

King Abdallah's undoubted magnanimity is best reflected in his criticisms of friend and adversary alike. Even in his most outspoken moments -- and he was sharply outspoken when he felt he should be -- he was free of rancor or of hate. This does not of course mean that he was angelic, for he was human after all. But whatever bitterness he displayed was directed against what he regarded as the misdeeds of men rather than against the men themselves. He was intolerant of the shortsighted, the selfish and the outright wicked. But his impulsiveness as well as his deep felt reaction was a fervent hope and prayer that their frailties might eventually be rectified. This was perhaps too optimistic, but nonetheless it portrayed his innermost character.

As I stated earlier, some of the events in the Supplement are transient and passing value, as most memoirs are. It is a register of an era which has long passed. But other issues with which the Takmilah dealt are still very much live and burning, in spite of the passage of over a quarter of a century, since King Abdallah wrote it. I shall single out three major issues in these reflections, which have remained unresolved and challenging, and which constitute the burden and the responsibility of the present and possibly of future generations.

First is the cause of Arab unification on a sound, realistic and lasting basis. For how many arbitrary entities have collapsed, even before they had seen the dawn of life?

My grandfather's generation took Arab unity for granted, and it was inconceivable to them to find themselves in a state of parochial fragmentation. This is attributable to two facts: first, with rare exceptions they had lived for centuries as citizens of an extensive and unified empire, the Ottoman when disaffection set in, it was the Arab provinces in unity versus the Turkish. Second, when the Arabs began the process of awakening and the rediscovery of their history, it did not cost them much effort to recognize that their greatness was co-terminous with their unity. Their golden age had been identified with such unified and extensive conglomerations as the Ummayad, the

Abbasid, the Fatimid, and other Arab and Islamic Empires. They possessed the ability to hold their own against alien and hostile intrusions. They also possessed the means to contribute abundantly and creatively to world culture and civilisation. They were, in fact, in the forefront for many centuries.

King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein and his generation of reawakened Arabs were fully cognizant of these historical truths. The basic objective of the Great Arab Rebellion was not a negative and vindictive dismantling of the Ottoman Empire, in which, but for its latter day aberrations, they had been honored and equal citizens; the basic objective of the Rebellion was the re-creation of a unified Arab domain, at least in the Arab East, in which the Arab nation could once more restore its eminence and its creativity, and ensure its inviolability and security. It was for this reason that King Abdallah reacted with impatient vehemence to all those who misconstrued the basic objectives of the Arab Rebellion and had the audacity to rationalise their adherence to misguided and disastrous provincialism.

My generation, in contrast with that of my grandfather, faces a steep uphill fight to achieve meaningful unity. The Sykes-Picot fragmentation had not only outlived its authors and the colonial purposes for which they had decreed it; it had also sunk deep roots of provincialism in the consciousness to accept the familiar and the prevalent.

Furthermore, vested interests have in the meantime struck roots, and these have an inherent tendency to self-perpetuation.

It was against these forces of distorted traditions that my grandfather had to contend, but to no avail. My task and that of those who share my mission is double the more difficult and challenging, and surmounting those forces, to which I am devoting a major part of my life and energies, would be a vindication and a fulfillment of my grandfather's and my people's most cherished aspiration.

Secondly, in my reflections on the Supplement, I shall give some thoughts on a phenomenon which, though universal, is more specifically an Arab trait, of frailty if you wish.

There are always those who can think only in absolutes, and other who believe that the world is based on relational relativity. The criterion in their every judgment is whether what they are seeking is feasible and attainable or not. How many nations have gone down to their ruin because they had failed to equate their ends with their means, their words with their deeds?

My grandfather, as his Supplement clearly testifies, belonged to the pragmatic school, without in any way diluting his intense idealism or his basic dedication to the causes in which he believed.

This, in my opinion, is what spells the difference between success and failure. In war, he was always mindful of the logistics of the situation. In diplomacy and statecraft, he never operated in a cloistered vacuum. He carefully assessed the forces aligned with him and those arrayed against him.

"...King Abdallah's undoubted magnanimity is best reflected in his criticisms of friend and adversary alike. Even in his most outspoken moments -- and he was sharply outspoken when he felt he should be -- he was free of rancor or of hate..."

This calculating attitude sometimes made him misunderstood among sections of the uninformed, who are inclined to hear what pleases them, rather than what serves their cause. Such inclination is intensified when wilfully fed into them by self seeking leaders and fomented by wily adversaries.

King Abdallah spoke out the truth, loudly and vehemently, as he saw it, regardless of whether it pleased or displeased his listeners. The fact that he was ahead of his time in his assessment of situations, and of projecting the possible consequences of every action or inaction, was not solely, or even primarily, intuitive or prophetic. It was largely the accumulated wisdom with which more than half a century of a uniquely rich career had endowed him. Triumphs and reverses, trials and errors, successes and failures, these were his armory when King Abdallah strove with only partial success to put his vast experience in the service of the Arab cause, at the moment of its greatest need.

Another example was King Abdallah's advice to the Palestinian leadership to accept the White Paper after a round table conference in London in 1939. This would have granted Palestine its full independence, with the Arab two-thirds in the majority. Again, the extremist Arab leadership rejected the plan, on the grounds that the plan included a proviso for a five-year interim period before it went into effect.

The Zionists, likewise, fought it tooth and nail; but in the eyes of the Western World it was the Palestinian Arabs who had thwarted the plan.

The third example of shortsighted Arab leadership was the inability to take a longer view of the consequences of the United Nations Partition Plan of November 29, 1947. This again could have at least preserved most of the green Palestine -- I am excluding the mostly arid desert of the Negev, which comprises half of Palestine -- to its Palestinian and legitimate inhabitants.

Arab division and indecision and their disastrous consequences bring me back to my earlier comments on King Abdallah's wise and far-sighted pragmatism. He had advised the Palestinian and other Arab leadership to accept the plan and to continue the struggle, but his advice went unheeded. And when the crunch came, and the Zionists, on the pretext of Arab rejection, launched their carefully planned design to conquer the whole of Palestine, it was King Abdallah's Jordanian Army which was in the forefront, and which succeeded in salvaging by far the greater part of what could be salvaged in the circumstances.

The more vociferous voices of rejection were sadly absent, to match by deeds their loud words. And to add to the irony of the situation, King Abdallah was assassinated in one of the holiest shrines of Islam, Al Aqsa Mosque, and in the Holy City, which his army alone had saved. And on what pretext by those who were behind the assassin's bullets? That he had betrayed the Palestine cause! When things reach such an abyss of ugly wickedness, I sometimes wonder whether blind irrationality is not a more predominant trait in politics than rationality. Let me set the record straight, clearly and categorically. No country in the world likes to be partitioned, and Palestine is no exception. King Abdallah, a true adherent of his father's mission was, in his innermost soul, as opposed to the alienation of any part of Palestine as anyone else. But to him, moral judgement and personal beliefs were an exercise in futility, unless backed by viable and adequate power, in the broad meaning of the term.

He had perceived the Zionist iceberg and its dimensions, while others had been only its tip. He makes reference to it in the Takmilah. His tactics and strategy were therefore attuned to circumventing and minimizing the possible consequences of a head-on collision. Others saw only the tip, and their responses were over-confidence, inflexibility and outright complacency.

The strategic depth of the half a million Jews of Palestine -- though a minority in the country -- was the world Zionist movement, with its pervasive and awesome influence in the world centres of power and decision making of his era.

Thus, the Partition Plan of 1947 was endorsed by practically all the major powers, including the United States and the Soviet Union. How could a million and a quarter disarmed and helpless Palestinians withstand such a formidable combination? That they felt morally right is understandable, but the failure of their leadership to assess the consequences is inexcusable.

The tragedy of the Palestinians was that most of their leaders had paralysed them with false and unsubstantiated pro-

theses that Palestine and Transjordan be severed. As a result of King Abdallah's vigorous and successful efforts, Transjordan was spared the imposition of the British undertaking to establish a Jewish national home in Palestine.

The British Empire, in the aftermath of World War I, was the foremost power in the world. Its decisions were, therefore, unmatched substantially by their adversaries.

To me, as to King Abdallah, there is a golden rule in evaluating policy and in taking decisions. The first is "know thyself," for this is pivotal in assessing your capabilities and your limitations. The second is "know the enemy," for failure to do that can spell disaster, and this is precisely what happened to the Palestinian people and their rightful cause.

I would not wish to go much further in my reflections on the Takmilah, for it is the work itself which I urge all those interested and concerned to read carefully, to derive the lessons from its message.

It is regrettable that the Takmilah does not include some of the inside information, in the crucial period of 1948 to 1951, to which King Abdallah was privy. There are two reasons for this incompleteness. Once is that King Abdallah was a very considerate and responsible statesman. He did not wish to embarrass some of his reigning colleagues for their failures and misjudgment, when the dust had not yet settled in the wake of the disastrous consequences which had befallen Palestine and its people. The second is his untimely and tragic passing away, when he was still, in spite of his age, in his full vigor and vitality, both physically and in mental alertness. It is a loss which, I hope, can be retrieved from his records and papers in due course.

My final comment is on the style of the Takmilah and on the language of diplomatic discourse which was then in vogue. Today, we have become accustomed to the ways of open diplomacy, with its accompanying viruperative vulgarity and bad taste. The Supplement is perhaps a closing chapter of an era when opinions and articulate ideas did not have to be expressed in other than polite style and language. It was the classical and deferential style which we so largely miss today.

I strongly commend The Takmilah of King Abdallah Ibn Al Hussein to the reader, because it is absorbingly interesting, instructive and timely, in the prevailing uncertainties and turbulence which continue to envelope the fate and destiny of our part of the world.

JUMBLE THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

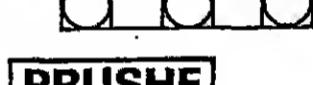
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CUEJI



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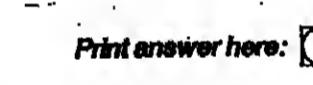
KAROC



PRUSHE



TESKUM



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Answers Tuesday

Yesterday's Jumble: NEEDY COCOA CALLOW MOTHER

Answer: What they called the tow truck operators' annual shindig—THE "TOW" DANCE

THE Daily Crossword

by Edward M. Gallen, Jr.

ACROSS	26	"Love's — Lost"	58	School: abbr.
1	Valletta's land	28	Fur cape	
6	Repair roads	30	Solo	
10	Water sound	31	Scoffing	
14	Greeting	35	Work hard	
15	During	36	Man on a picket line	
16	Song for a diva	39	Scotch negative	
17	Nomad	40	Stance	
18	Good-bye	42	— the bagel	
19	Young men	44	Where Anne taught	
20	One with insight	45	Unfruitful	
21	African nation	47	Convex molding	
23	Sacred music	50	Placed near	
25	"Just — in the Dark"	52	Everywhere	

DOWN	1	Planet	
2	Amaryllis plant	3	Romeos
3	Right after	5	Swiss river
4	Archipelago items	6	Dialect
5	City on the Delaware	7	Fill with wonder
6	Digging implements	8	Anti-blooding element
7	Craig hill	9	Cheese
8	Old enough	10	Gaseous substance
9	Made love to	11	Virginia name
10	49	Constellation	
11	49	51	
12	49	Nursery rhyme legumes	
13	53	55	
14	53	57	
15	53	59	
16	53	61	
17	53	63	
18	53	65	
19	53	67	
20	53	69	
21	53	71	
22	53	73	
23	53	75	
24	53	77	